

Appendix I. State of California Ecological Reserve Regulations

CHAPTER 11. ECOLOGICAL RESERVES

630. Ecological Reserves.

The areas specified in this chapter have been declared by the Fish and Game Commission to be ecological reserves. A legal description of the boundaries of each ecological reserve is on file at the department's headquarters, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento. Ecological reserves are established to provide protection for rare, threatened or endangered native plants, wildlife, aquatic organism and specialized terrestrial or aquatic habitat types. Public entry and use of ecological reserves shall be compatible with the primary purposes of such reserves, and subject to the following applicable general rules and regulations, except as otherwise provided for in the special area regulations:

(a) General Rules and Regulations:

- (1) Protection of Resources. No person shall mine or disturb geological formations or archeological artifacts or take or disturb any bird or nest, or eggs thereof, or any plant, mammal, fish, mollusk, crustacean, amphibian, reptile, or any other form of plant or animal life in an ecological reserve except as provided in subsections 630(a)(2) and (a)(8). The department may implement enhancement and protective measures to assure proper utilization and maintenance of ecological reserves.
- (2) Fishing. Fishing shall be allowed in accordance with the general fishing regulations of the commission except that the method of taking fish shall be limited to angling from shore. No person shall take fish for commercial purposes in any ecological reserve except by permit from the commission.
- (3) Collecting. No collecting shall be done in an ecological reserve except by permit issued pursuant to Section 650 of these regulations. Any person applying for a permit must have a valid scientific collecting permit issued pursuant to part 3 of this title.
- (4) Motor Vehicles. No person shall drive, operate, leave, or stop any motor vehicle, bicycle, tractor, or other type of vehicle in an ecological reserve except on designated access roads and parking areas.
- (5) Swimming. No person shall swim, wade, dive, or use any diving equipment within an ecological reserve except as authorized under the terms of a permit issued pursuant to subsection (3).
- (6) Boating. No person shall launch or operate a boat or other floating device within an ecological reserve except by permit from the commission.
- (7) Trails. The department may designate areas within an ecological reserve where added protection of plant or animal life is desirable, and may establish equestrian or walking trails or paths within such designated areas. No person shall walk or ride horseback in such areas except upon the established trails or paths.
- (8) Firearms. No person shall fire or discharge any firearm, bow and arrow, air or gas gun, spear gun, or any other weapon of any kind within or into an ecological reserve or possess such weapons within an ecological reserve, except law enforcement

personnel and as provided for in individual area regulations that allow for hunting.

(9) Ejection. Employees of the department may eject any person from an ecological reserve for violation of any of these rules or regulations or for any reason when it appears that the general safety or welfare of the ecological reserve or persons thereon is endangered.

(10) Public Entry. Public entry may be restricted on any area at the discretion of the department to protect the wildlife, aquatic life, or habitat. No person, except state and local law enforcement officers, fire suppression agencies and employees of the department in the performance of their official duties or persons possessing written permission from the department, may enter any ecological reserve, or portion thereof, which is closed to public entry. No person may enter any Ecological Reserve between sunset and sunrise except with written permission from the Department, which may be granted for purposes including night fishing in accordance with subsection (a)(2) from designated shore areas only.

A \$2.00 day use pass or a valid \$10.00 annual wildlife pass is required of all users of Elkhorn Slough and Upper Newport Bay ecological reserves except for users that possess a valid California sport fishing license hunting license or trapping license, or users that are under 16 years of age or users that are part of an organized youth or school group and having free permits issued by the appropriate regional office. Refer to subsection 550(b)(16)(B), Title 14, CCR, for regulations for fee requirements for wildlife areas.

(11) Introduction of Species. Unless authorized by the commission, the release of any fish or wildlife species, including domestic or domesticated species, or the introduction of any plant species, is prohibited. The department may reintroduce endemic species on ecological reserves for management purposes.

(12) Feeding of Wildlife. The feeding of wildlife is prohibited.

(13) Pesticides. The use of pesticides is prohibited on any ecological reserve unless authorized by the commission with the exception that the department may use pesticides for management purposes and for public safety.

(14) Litter. No person shall deposit, drop, or scatter any debris on any ecological reserve except in a receptacle or area designated for that purpose. Where no designated receptacles are provided, any refuse resulting from a person's use of an area must be removed from that area by such person.

(15) Grazing. The grazing of livestock is prohibited on any ecological reserve.

(16) Falconry. Falconry is prohibited.

(17) Aircraft. No person shall operate any aircraft or hovercraft within a reserve, except as authorized by a permit from the commission.

(18) Pets. Pets, including dogs and cats, are prohibited from entering reserves unless they are retained on a leash of less than ten feet or are inside a motor vehicle, except as provided for in individual area regulations that allow for hunting or training activities.

(19) Fires. No person shall light fireworks or other explosive or incendiary devices, or start or maintain any fire on or in any reserve, except for management purposes as provided in

subsection (a)(1).

(20) Camping. No person shall camp on/in any ecological reserve.

(21) Vandalism. No person shall tamper with, damage or remove any property not his own when such property is located within an ecological reserve.

(b) Areas and Special Regulations for Use:

(1) Abalone Cove Ecological Reserve, Los Angeles County.

(A) Fishing is permitted for fin fish (those having vertebrae) only, from boats as well as from shore. Spear guns may be used for the taking of fin fish.

(B) Swimming, surfing, boating, skin and SCUBA diving are permitted.

(2) Albany Mudflats Ecological Reserve, Alameda County.

(3) Alkali Sink Ecological Reserve, Fresno County.

(A) Grazing is permitted under a permit from the department.

(4) Allensworth Ecological Reserve, Tulare County.

(A) Grazing shall be allowed under permit from the department.

(B) Hunting shall be permitted in accordance with general hunting regulations, but only at such times and in specific areas as designated by the department.

(5) Anacapa Island Ecological Reserve, Ventura County.

(A) Except as specifically prohibited under this section, boating, sport and commercial fishing, spearfishing, swimming and diving with underwater breathing apparatus are permitted within the ecological reserve which extends one mile from the nearest point of land of east, middle and west island(s) commonly referred to as Anacapa Island.

(B) A natural area is hereby established from the mean high tide mark seaward to a water depth of 10 fathoms (60 feet) on the north side of East Anacapa Island between a line extending 345 magnetic off the westernmost point and a line extending 75 magnetic off the easternmost point. It is unlawful to take or possess any native plant, fish, wildlife, aquatic organism or disturb any natural geological feature within the described natural area.

(C) No invertebrates may be taken from within the following areas:

1. The mean high tide mark to a water depth of 20 feet on the south side of West Anacapa Island between a line extending 145 magnetic off the National Park Service Monument at the southernmost point, adjacent to and excluding Cat Rock, and a line extending 220 magnetic off the National Park Service Monument at the easternmost point near Frenchy's Cove.

2. The mean high tide mark to a water depth of 20 feet on the north side of Middle Anacapa Island between a line extending 345 magnetic off the National Park Service monument at Key Hole Arch Point to a line extending 345 off the westernmost point of East Anacapa Island at the western boundary of the natural area off Anacapa Island.

(D) No net or trap may be used in waters less than 20 feet deep off the Anacapa Islands commonly referred to as Anacapa Island.

(E) A brown pelican fledgling area is designated from the mean high tide mark seaward to a water depth of 20 fathoms (120 feet) on the north side of West Anacapa Island between a line extending 345 magnetic off Portuguese Rock to a line

extending 345 magnetic off the western edge of Frenchy's Cove, a distance of approximately 4,000 feet. No person except as provided in subsection (a)(10), and employees of the National Park Service in the performance of their official duties shall enter this area during the period January 1 to October 31.

(F) No person shall fire or discharge any firearm or explosive devices, air or gas gun within the ecological reserve.

(G) Harvesting of kelp from within this reserve shall be prohibited except under a permit issued by the department.

(6) Apricum Hill Ecological Reserve, Amador County.

(A) No person, except as provided in subsection (a)(10), shall enter the reserve.

(7) Atascadero Creek Marsh Ecological Reserve, Sonoma County.

(8) Bair Island Ecological Reserve, San Mateo County.

(A) No person, except as provided in subsection (a)(10), shall enter this reserve during the period February 15 through May 20.

(B) Waterfowl shall be taken in accordance with the general waterfowl regulations.

(9) Baldwin Lake Ecological Reserve, San Bernardino County.

(A) All fishing is prohibited.

(B) Waterfowl and upland game hunting shall be allowed in accordance with the general hunting regulations. Waterfowl hunting shall be permitted from boats only, and in accordance with general waterfowl hunting regulations and pursuant to the provisions of Section 551, Title 14, CCR.

(C) Boating is permitted for the purpose of waterfowl hunting only. Boats may be launched and retrieved in designated areas only.

(10) Batiquitos Lagoon Ecological Reserve, San Diego County.

(A) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a)(1), (3), (5), (6) and (12), the department may issue permits to conduct biological research projects within the reserve. Such projects shall be compatible with the primary purpose of the reserve.

(B) San Diego County, after consultation with the department, may carry out management activities necessary for fish and wildlife management, flood control and vector control. Authorized operation and maintenance activities shall include, but shall not be limited to, use of chemicals, vegetation control, water control and associated use of equipment.

(11) Blue Ridge Ecological Reserve, Tulare County.

(A) Grazing shall be allowed under permit from the department.

(B) Hunting and trapping shall be permitted in accordance with the general hunting and trapping regulations, but only at such times and in specific areas as designated by the department. Trapping may only be done under permit from the department.

(12) Blue Sky Ecological Reserve, San Diego County.

(13) Bobelaine Ecological Reserve, Sutter County.

(A) No person, except as provided in subsection (a)(10), employees of the National Audubon Society or employees of the Department of Water Resources, in the performance of their official duties or those persons possessing written permission from the area manager, may enter the reserve for any purpose.

(B) All fishing is prohibited.

(C) The area manager may issue permits to conduct biological research projects and may restrict the use of boats, vehicles